

one year, shall be free. But if they shall not depart the commonwealth within one year they shall be out of the protection of the laws. (From a bill concerning slaves, rejected by the Assembly, 1779. F. II., 201.)

SLAVERY.—This unfortunate difference of colour, and perhaps of faculty, is a powerful obstacle to the emancipation of these people. Many of their advocates, while they wish to vindicate the liberty of human nature, are anxious also to preserve its dignity and beauty. Some of these, embarrassed by the question, "What further is to be done with them?" join themselves in opposition with those who are actuated by sordid avarice only. Among the Romans emancipation required but one effort. The slave, when made free, might mix with, without staining the blood of his master. But with us a second is necessary, unknown to history. When freed he is to be removed beyond the reach of mixture. (From "Notes on Virginia," 1782. F. III., 250.)

SLAVERY.—It is impossible to be temperate and pursue this subject through the various considerations of policy, of morals, or history, natural and civil. We must be contented to hope they will force their way into everyone's mind. I think a change already perceptible, since the origin of the present revolution. The spirit of the master is abating, that of the slave rising from the dust, his condition mollifying, the way I hope preparing under the auspices of heaven, for a total emancipation, and that this is disposed, in the order of events, to be with the consents of the masters, rather than by their extirpation. (From "Notes on Virginia," 1782. F. III., 267.)

SLAVERY.—Indeed, I tremble for my country when I reflect! that God is just: that his justice cannot sleep forever: that considering members, nature, and natural means only, a revolution of the wheel of fortune, an exchange of situation, is among possible events; that it may become probable by supernatural interference. The Almighty has no attribute which can take side with us in such a contest (with slaves). (From "Notes on Virginia," 1782. F. III., 267.)

SLAVERY.—With what execrations should the statesman be